



CHICORA FOUNDATION, INC.

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

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COLUMBIA, S.C. 29202
803-787-6910

June 28, 2017

Mr. Tommy L. Jackson
Central Electric Power Cooperative
Supervisor of Environmental Services
P.O. Box 1455
Columbia, SC 29202

Re: Cultural Resources Assessment of the McKelvey Underground Distribution Project, Greenville County, SC

Dear Mr. Jackson,

I understand that the proposed project involves the construction of an underground distribution line for approximately 0.5 mile from about 200 feet west of the intersection of McKelvey Road and U.S. 25 to the intersection of McKelvey Road with Hood-Jordan Road. The line will be entirely within the existing DOT right-of-way.

The technique for this construction will be horizontal directional drilling or HDD. This is a steerable trenchless method of installing underground pipe, conduit, or cable in a shallow arc along a prescribed bore path by using a surface-launched drilling rig, with minimal impact on the surrounding area. Areas of disturbance will be at the entrance and exit points, but will likely be limited to an area of about 100 square feet. Some surface disturbance may be caused by construction crews or equipment, but this also will be limited to the existing DOT right-of-way.

The portion of McKelvey Road west of U.S. 25 (also known as Pearson Road), was realigned sometime between 1994 and 2005. This area is in woods. About half of the remaining corridor is rural with roadside fields and pastures. The remaining portion of the corridor is in woods and includes two small creek crossings.

The corridor currently lacks overhead utility lines (although there is one utility crossing and an overhead line begins at Hood-Jordan Road). Google Earth Street View was consulted to explore the immediate roadside conditions. No features of note were identified (Figure 2 is representative).

The soils in the project area include Cataula sandy loam, 2 to 6% slopes, eroded; Cecil sandy loams, 2 to 6% slopes; and Appling sandy loams, 2 to 6% slopes (Camp 1975). Lowry (1934) identifies the area has moderate sheet erosion and occasional gullies, while Trimble (1974) indicates a loss of up to 0.6 foot of soil.



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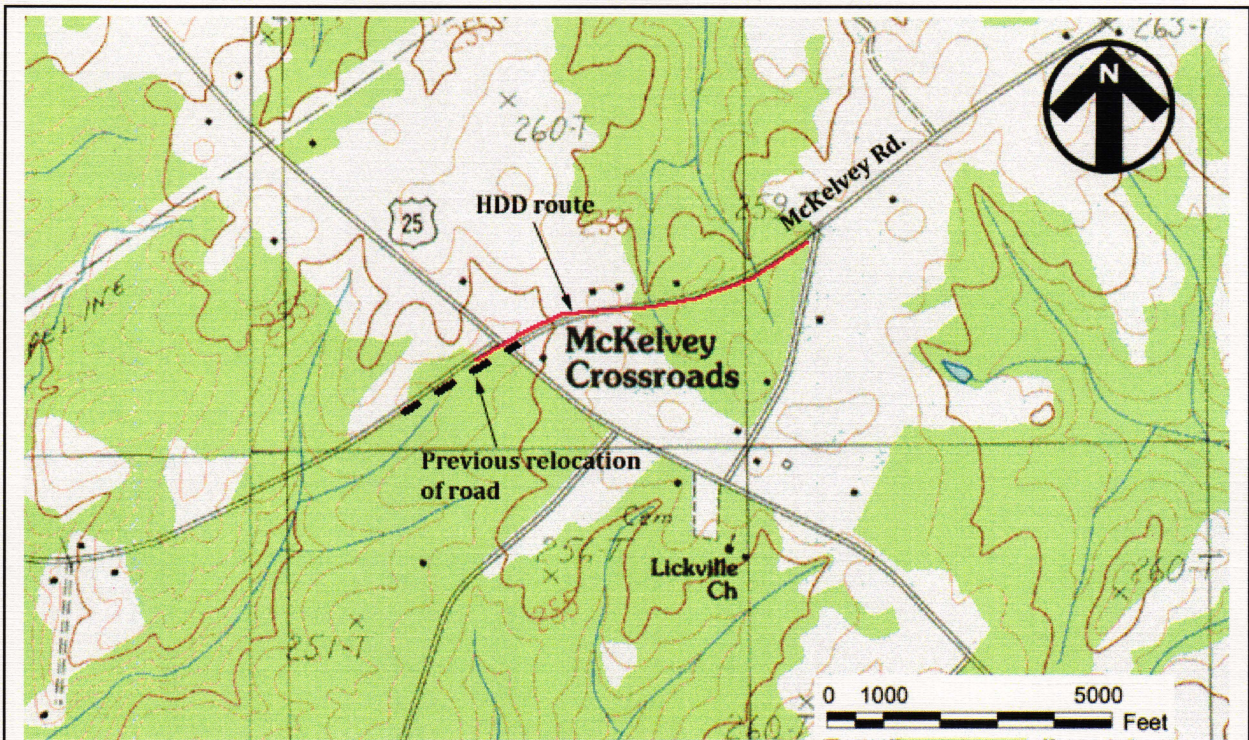


Figure 1. Proposed underground corridor. At the top is the 1983 Fork Shoals 7.5' USGS topographic map of the area. Below is a June 2016 aerial image.



Figure 2. Screenshots of Street View from Google Earth. The upper photo shows the corridor at the southwest end of the project, looking northeast. The lower photo shows the corridor at its northeastern terminus, looking northeast.

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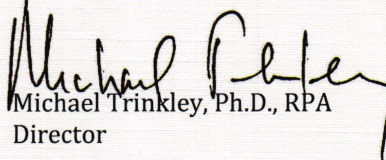
Given the underground nature of this project, the area of potential effects (APE) is very limited. ArchSite identified no previously recorded sites in this section of Greenville County and the nearest standing structures (2938 and 2940), both determined not eligible, are over 1.5 miles to the southeast. Inspection of the Chicora maps for Greenville County (Trinkley et al. 1995) reveals that the W.A. McKelvey Resident and four tenant houses were situated north of McKelvey Road and east of U.S. 25 based on the 1882 Kyzer map. The 1940 General Highway and Transportation Map also indicated a farm and tenant house on the north side of McKelvey Road at its intersection with Hood-Jordan Road. Although neither of these sites have been identified archaeologically, both are likely outside the existing road right-of-way where activities will take place.

Based on the absence of documented historic structures or archaeological sites, the extremely limited surface disturbance proposed, and the work being limited to the existing right-of-way, I do not recommend any further cultural resource studies for this project.

While unlikely, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the area during construction. As always, the utility's contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

If you have any questions concerning the investigation, please do not hesitate to contact me at 803-787-6910.

Sincerely,


Michael Trinkley, Ph.D., RPA
Director

Sources Cited

Camp, Wallace J.

1975 *Soil Survey of Greenville County, South Carolina*. U.S.D.A., Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Lowry, M.W.

1934 *Reconnaissance Erosion Survey of the State of South Carolina*. United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service.

Trimble, Stanley W.

1974 *Man-Induced Soil Erosion on the Southern Piedmont, 1700-1970*. Soil Conservation Society of America, Aukey, Iowa.

Trinkley, Michael, Debi Hacker, Natalie Adams

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